

TEO FS-16 "Your Passport to Quality Health" Fact Sheet

You can expect quality, cost effective, and accessible medical care through the TRICARE Europe Preferred Provider Network (PPN). Not only will host nation providers in our network help Prime patients file claims, Prime beneficairies will usually not have to pay a dime upfront to receive care. The members of our PPN represent the best-available host nation providers in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. We're proud of our PPN and we're confident that you will be satisfied with the care you receive.

What is the PPN?

The PPN is made up of thousands of host nation providers throughout Europe, Africa, and the Middle East who agree to see TRICARE Prime members when health care is unavailable through the military healthcare system.

Each member of the PPN joins by completing a TRICARE Europe Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). When signed by both parties, this memorandum signifies a special relationship between a host nation provider and the local U.S. Military Commander.

How to Use the PPN

Simply contact your MTF for an appointment. If there is no space available at that time, your local TRICARE Service Center, in coordination with your Primary Care Manager (if you have one – TRICARE Standard beneficiaries do not), will work with you to refer you to a member of TRICARE Europe's Preferred Provider Network. If you are a TRICARE Prime member, you will always need to get a referral (authorization) before seeking care outside of the MTF.

What Can You Expect?

While some aspects of your experience in a host nation clinic or hospital may not be exactly the same as in the U.S., the providers in

the TRICARE Europe PPN are fully qualified, quality medical providers.

TRICARE Service Center staff members are available to help bridge cultural and language gaps. These personnel understand the local culture and clinical practice environment and can assist you in understanding your experience when referred for health care in your host nation.

How We Ensure Quality Care

TRICARE Europe continually monitors the quality of care provided by host nation providers in the PPN to ensure beneficiaries receive the best possible care. TRICARE Europe's quality monitoring program is based on the best network quality monitoring practices used by MTFs theater-wide. We constantly gather data about each provider in our PPN from patient surveys and other feedback tools. We use that data to make decisions about the future development of the PPN program. This quality monitoring also helps us ensure that each member of our PPN continue to meet our expectations of care. If an MTF finds that a provider is not meeting these expectations, they have the option to discontinue the PPN agreement with that member. TRICARE Europe's PPN 'membership' agreements are reviewed for renewal on an ongoing, regular basis.

A Positive Experience

TRICARE Europe PPN providers consistently get excel-

lent feedback through surveys and direct comments. Patient feedback is overwhelmingly positive about the network providers and matches or exceeds overall satisfaction with providers in the Continental U.S. TRICARE Europe also surveys host nation providers to get feedback from them in terms of their relationship with TRICARE. Since Sept. 11, 2001, TRICARE Europe has mailed over 6,000 host nation provider satisfaction surveys. Results to date indicate that over 90% are highly satisfied with their relationship with TRICARE and hope to continue to do business with us



Customer Comment Cards are Critical

It is very important that beneficiaries complete patient customer comment cards to assist TRICARE

Europe and the military MTF monitor quality of care. TRICARE Europe centrally collects patient feedback to look for trends and patterns that will help MTFs identify and best-use the highest quality providers.

More Information

For more information, see www.europe.tricare.osd.mil/ppn or stop by your local TRICARE Service Center.